- Each Distribution Company should be considered separately for incentive. Ministry may evolve other methods for incentivizing good work. Incentive should be utilized for imporvement in the power sector only.

In view of the recommendations/suggestions of the various stakeholders on the implementation of APDRP, the programme is proposed to be continued with the revised terms and conditions during the Eleventh Five Year Plan to make it more effective.

Pilferage of power in Delhi

234. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 35 per cent of power distributed in Delhi is pilfered and Delhiites pay for this loss;

(b) whether the State loses nearly Rs. 3000 crore annually due to power thefts;

(c) if so, the measures taken to check power pilferagae; and

(d) whether power pilferage is high in industrial and commercial areas and if so, the number of power pilferers booked during the last three years and the quantum of money recovered from them?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by Government of NCT of Delhi, the present Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses of the Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) of Delhi are as under:-

SI. No.	Name of DISCOM	% AT&C loss (As on 31.03.2007)
1.	North Delhi Power Ltd. (NDPL)	23.54
2.	BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. (BRPL)	29.92
3.	BSES Yamuna Power Ltd. (BYPL)	39.03

(c) The measures undertaken in Delhi to check power pilferage include:-

(i) Deployment of CISF personnel in Distribution Companies to help them in conduct of raids;

(ii) Setting up of six Special Courts in NCT of Delhi exclusively for trying cases of theft of electricity;

(iii) Making theft a cognizable offence through an amendment in the Electricity Act, 2003;

(iv) Implementation of various capital expenditure schemes like metering, introduction of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS), Low Tension Aerial Bunched Cables (LT ABC);

(v) Aggressive anti-theft drive wherein enforcement raids are conducted regularly;

(vi) Improvement in collection efficiency, which also includes managerial improvements by way of better billing methods and collection of past arrears.

(d) In Delhi, AT&C loss levels are calculated for entire DISCOMs and not on consumer category-wise. 37563 number of power pilfering cases were booked during the last three years and an amount of Rs. 137.79 crores has been recovered from them.

Financial assistance for setting up Hydro-Electric Power Projects

235. SHRl JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre extends financial assistance for establishment of Hydro-Electric Power Projects to State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of projects received, approved, quantum of amount sanctioned and released, during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether fresh requests have been received from any State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Centre's response thereto, with special reference to Karnataka Government's proposal for establishment of a Hydro-Electric Power Project in Hassan district?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRl SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Ministry of Power does not directly extend any financial assistance for establishment of Hydro Electric Power Projects to the State Governments. The financial assistance to the State Governments is extended through their annual plans for overall development of the State, through the Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Athirappilly Hydel Project

236. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary clearances have been given to Athirappilly Hydel Project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steps were proposed to be taken for protection of environment and also the livelihood of the tribals in those areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Athirappilly Hydro Electric Project (163 MW) was accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 31st March, 2005 at an estimated cost of Rs. 385.6 crores at April, 2004 price level. As per information availabale with CEA, the environmental clearance for the above project was initially accorded on 20.1.1998. The environmental clearance was suspended on the basis of a judgment (17.10.2001) of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala. The court had directed to conduct the public hearing, the public hearing was conducted by Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on 6.2.2002. Environmental clearance for the project was restored on 10.2.2002 subject to strict compliance to certain terms and conditions.

Public Interest Litigations (PILs) were filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala against the grant of environmental clearance and implementation of the project. The